GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:114
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2017
Development of Ramayana and Buddha Circuits
Azad Shri Kirti (JHA)

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to prepare any special scheme to develop Ramayana circuit and Buddha circuit to promote tourism in Bihar, if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government has allocated funds for developing basic infrastructure to provide better facilities to the pilgrims, if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the details of the schemes of the Government to attract domestic tourists at various religious places in Bihar?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.â€ *114 ANSWERED ON 24.07.2017 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF RAMAYANA AND BUDDHA CIRCUITS.

(a): Ramayana and Buddhist Circuits are among the thirteen thematic circuits identified for development in the country including Bihar under Swadesh Darshan Scheme.

(b): Under Swadesh Darshan scheme Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned funds for development of basic infrastructure and facilities for tourists which includes tourist facilitation centre, pathways, illumination, landscaping, parking, exhibition hall, cafeteria, toilet blocks, sewage treatment plant, multi-purpose hall, drinking water facilities, benches, approach road, resting sheds, signages, battery operated vehicles, wayside amenities, SEL show, souvenir shops, etc. The details of projects sanctioned in Bihar under Swadesh Darshan Scheme are as under:
<pre> (Rs. in crore)
Sl. No. Name of the Project Amount sanctioned
1. Development of Jain Circuit: Vaishali-Arrah-Masad-Patna-Rajgir-Pawapuri-Champapuri as Spiritual Circuit in Bihar. (2016-17) 52.39

2. Integrated Development of Kanwaria Route: Sultanganj − Dharmshala- Deoghar under Spiritual circuit in Bihar. (2016-17) 52.35

3. Development of Buddhist circuit- Construction of Cultural Centre at Bodhgaya, Bihar. (2016-17) 98.73
4. Development of Bhitiharwa -Chandrahia - Turkaulia in Bihar under Rural Circuit theme of Swadesh Darshan Scheme. (2017-18) 44.65
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(c): The Ministry of Tourism undertakes a series of promotional activities under the 'Incredible India' brand-line to promote India and its various tourism products and destinations including religious places in Bihar in domestic and international markets.

Incredible India campaigns are released in domestic and international markets in various media including Print, Television, Online and Outdoor to showcase India's tourism potential and to increase foreign tourist arrivals and domestic tourist visits in the country. A series of promotional activities are also undertaken through the India Tourism Offices in India and overseas. These include participation in travel fairs and exhibitions; organising Road Shows, seminars & workshops; production of publicity material and hosting media personalities, tour operators and opinion makers from overseas under the Hospitality programme of the Ministry. The Ministry of Tourism also utilizes its website and social media platforms to promote the tourism destinations and products of the country.

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